

APPENDIX III
Economic Support Funds (ESF) and Other Funding Sources
Section 2207 Report to Congress
October 2008

Economic Support Funds

Objective 1: Security Track

a. Provincial Reconstruction Development Council Funds

Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) are joint civilian-military groups of diplomats, military officers, and other specialists with expertise ranging from development and entrepreneurship to engineering and the rule of law. They work with Iraqi-led Provincial Reconstruction Development Councils (PRDCs) to identify and execute priority projects that strengthen the ability of provincial governments to deliver essential services and key development projects to their communities. PRDC funds support smaller-scale provincial-level infrastructure projects. By helping Iraqi communities provide for their own needs, PRTs help build the stability needed for Iraq to emerge as a secure and prosperous society.

Fiscal Year 2006 funds (\$315 million) for PRDC projects are almost fully allocated. Projects using FY07 Supplemental funding continue to be executed. A total of \$385 million in FY07 funds has been designated for PRDC projects, of which \$227 million has been approved by the Embassy for specific projects that are currently being executed through the Department of Defense's U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division (USACE/GRD). An additional \$14 million has been approved for provincial technical assistance projects. Finally, Congress appropriated an additional \$66 million in PRDC funding in the FY08 Supplemental budget.

Responsible U.S. Government Agencies: USAID, Department of State, and Department of Defense.

Accomplishments:

This quarter, the embassy approved \$47.7 million in funds for projects in Iraq's 18 provinces. Approved projects are either in the procurement process or have already been awarded. Accomplishments include:

- Completed 29 projects (20 with FY 2006 funds and 9 with FY 2007 funds) with a total contract value of \$20.7 million, including:
 - The \$472,000 Etot Quarter Water Supply Network in Dahuk Province. The project included the construction of a concrete ground storage tank, well house, 4,000 linear meters of pipe, and a distribution network in the village. The completed project will provide potable water to 5,000 villagers that will reduce health risks and improve quality of life.

- The \$1,038,980 Aziz-Balad Mobile Substation in Salah ad Din Province. The scope of work was to supply, install, connect, commission, and place in service a 33/11 KV mobile substation including an operator's building, a fenced gravel yard, and network connections. The project will provide reliable power to approximately 3,000 people in the Aziz-Balad District.
- The \$797,000 M333 Al Manama Elementary School in Adhamiyah, Baghdad Province. The project included construction of a two-story building with 12 classrooms, an administration building, a workshop, and a 4,000-square-meter walled compound.
- Awarded 28 new projects (one with FY 2006 funds and 27 with FY 2007 funds) with a total contract value of \$50.2 million.
- Began construction on 16 projects (three with FY 2006 funds and 13 with FY 2007 funds) with a total contract value of \$12.8 million.

b. Quick Response Fund (QRF)

The Quick Response Fund (\$135 million in ESF funding) was established and funded in August 2007 to accelerate economic, social, and civil society development within the Iraqi provinces. The fund is administered by the Office of Provincial Affairs (OPA) based in Baghdad. The staff of PRTs and embedded PRTs (ePRTs) identify projects at the local level that build the capacity of local neighborhood and government officials to deliver services transparently, empower women and youth, and support civil society and small businesses.

The Department of State manages \$35 million of QRF funds through small grants and procurements and cooperates closely with USAID, which manages \$100 million through individual grants generally up to \$200,000. During this quarter, the ceiling for grants was increased to \$500,000. QRF-funded projects seek to catalyze local development in a wide range of sectors including agriculture, education, media, business development, rule of law, womens' programs, and local government.

Accomplishments:

- All financial and statistical data reported are from the QRF Database, a stand-alone management tool used by OPA. The statistics provided below are as of September 23.
- USAID continues to manage the implementation of 229 grants totaling \$34.3 million, and the Department of State manages the implementation of \$34.1 million in procurements and projects. The grants managed by USAID are subcontracted to Developmental Alternatives Inc. USAID has disbursed \$16.9 million in grants, and the Department of State has disbursed \$17 million. Project themes range from the training of local businessmen, government officials, and professionals, to the procurement of supplies and provision of technical assistance for local governments, cooperatives, associations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and non-profit organizations.
- PRT staff continued working with Iraqi NGOs and civil society organizations to increase operational capacity and strengthen their ability to provide essential services to the community.

- OPA's QRF staff conducted outreach with each PRT in Iraq, resulting in an increase in the quantity and quality of Embassy Technical Evaluation Committee proposals for QRF projects. USAID's implementing partner, DAI, has nine staff members, Senior Program Development Officers (SPDOs), who are assigned to PRTs/ePRTs. The SPDOs visit with each PRT/ePRT in order to assist them and the QRF beneficiaries with proposal and budget preparations, NGO registration if applicable, and security vetting.
- Commencing in mid-July, OPA's QRF staff conducted developed and presented bi-monthly training sessions for PRT and ePRT staff. Approximately 60 people have attended the five training sessions.
- The OPA QRF team continued to work with the USAID Economic Growth team to refine the standardized template for microfinance-related grant proposals. The completion of this template is now a requirement when microfinance grant proposals are submitted for review and approval.
- Among the many projects initiated this quarter, Baghdad ePRT 2 implemented a grant for \$178,000 to the Institute for Handicapped Children. Founded to address the special needs and considerations of mentally handicapped children from three years of age onwards, the Institute's curriculum consists of classes that are categorized according to the child's age.
- The USAID grant provided equipment specially designed for the physical therapy of handicapped children. Amongst other subjects, children attend sessions that give them basic educational grounding such as word and shape recognition. Because the special needs of these children are being addressed at an early age, it will be easier for them to enter more advanced rehabilitation programs as they mature into adulthood. The Institute has the capacity to care for 200 children per year.

c. Local Governance Program (LGP)

The Local Governance Program (\$259.5 million in ESF funding for the current Phase II, including \$54.0 million in FY08 Supplemental funds) works closely with Iraqis in all 18 provinces to provide targeted training on the provincial and local levels to foster and develop good governance practices and to support the delivery of essential services. The program's long-term objective is, in cooperation with elected and appointed local government officials, to strengthen the institutions, capacity, and legal and policy framework needed for an effective and coordinated system of democratic local governance in Iraq.

LGP II (\$14 in FY 08 Supplemental funds) will continue in 2009 to provide technical support to the PRTs. LGP III, which was re-competed and newly awarded, will carry on focused activities to link community, local, provincial and national capacity building efforts but in fewer high priority provinces.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USAID

Accomplishments:

- Sponsored and supported approximately 945 training events for 8,797 attendees in provinces across the country. This training effort included national, regional, and provincial conferences and workshops for local officials on a wide range of topics, including provincial budget development, strategic planning, citizen participation, and transparency and accountability. Additionally, it assisted local government officials establish political legitimacy, clarify their authority, build capacity, and fulfill their duties.
- LGP developed a ten-module training program to enable elected and appointed Iraqi officials to better understand their roles and responsibilities under the Provincial Powers Act (PPA). Training sessions on the content and interpretation of the new governorates law was conducted in each of 15 governorates that will participate in the 2009 elections. The new law will go into effect after the upcoming provincial elections.
- Supported provincial councils in strategic planning by helping governorates submit Provincial Development Plans (PDPs) for FY2009 to the ministries of Planning and Finance. At the end of the quarter (September 2008), 11 governorates had submitted PDPs.
- Strengthened the provincial civil service by performing a structural analysis of the governments of six provinces. The analysis will be used in tandem with USAID's *Tatweer* capacity development project to draft new civil service legislation.
- Assisted the Iraq Local Government Association (LGA) to begin operations in its new headquarters building.
- Continued Geographic Information System (GIS) assistance in all 18 provinces, which included training, and the purchase of software licenses and equipment. Engineering staff has been working with more than 200 provincial engineers in all major cities to conduct an inventory of map archives, digitize them, and transform data into city base maps. LGP assisted with scanning of property boundaries into mapping databases and combining them into a composite map in 18 governorate capitals. Additionally, LGP provided on-demand technical support for geographic information systems (GIS), media outreach, and business planning to address Iraqi officials' latest needs.
- Extended the Governorates Accounting and Project Tracking Information System (GAPTIS) to 10 governorates. GAPTIS is the only system in Iraq's public sector specifically intended to support financial management and project oversight for provincial capital investment. The system captures job creation data, generates automated financial reports, ensures project tracking, and is customized to meet individual needs of provinces.
- Promoted understanding of fiscal federalism (Article 106 of the *Constitution*) by holding a conference for executive officials and legislators from the governorates and federal government.

d. Community Stabilization Program (CSP) in Strategic Cities

The Community Stabilization Program (\$614 million in ESF funding, which includes \$100 million from the FY08 Supplemental) aims to reduce the incentives for young men to participate in sectarian violence and insurgent activities. First, CSP focuses on short-term employment generation through its community infrastructure and essential service projects, which support the GOI's ability to deliver basic services at the local level. Second, CSP focuses on longer-term job creation through its Business Development programs, providing in-kind capital and training to micro, small and medium-sized private enterprises, particularly those with high employment potential or destroyed by violence. Third, CSP supports education through its vocational training and apprenticeships, which allow Iraqis to gain employable skills, practical experience, and provides assistance with job placement in careers such as carpentry, masonry, welding and sewing. Fourth, CSP focuses on engaging youth through sports, cultural events, skills training, public service campaigns, and other activities designed to keep young Iraqis off the streets and connected in a positive manner with their culture and community.

As of September 27, 2008, CSP has employed a daily average of more than 69,000 Iraqis in day-work, more than 39,000 in short-term positions, and more than 29,000 in long-term positions. CSP has more than 1,400 projects and has cumulatively generated over 491,000 person-months of employment through its community infrastructure and essential service projects which include cleaning campaigns, water and sewage, healthcare, education, agriculture, street repair and painting, parks and recreation, local government as well as other projects. To date, more than 8,500 CSP business development grants valued at approximately \$67.1 million have been made and more than 10,160 Iraqis have graduated from business skills training courses. Through its vocational training and apprenticeships, more than 32,500 Iraqis have graduated from vocational training and more than 9,000 Iraqis have been placed in apprenticeships.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USAID

Accomplishments:

- In Baghdad, CSP completed the initial rehabilitation projects for the Taji market. Positive feedback from local merchants, GOI, and Coalition Forces inspired additional projects to be developed and implemented to further enhance the utility of the market to vendors and customers. This quarter, the final CSP-funded MoLSA vocational training courses were implemented. As CSP prepared for the handover of Vocational Training Centers (VTC) to MoLSA, the rehabilitation of MoLSA Employment Service Centers (ESC) was completed and work on MOE instructional facilities was also initiated.
- CSP engaged more than 7,600 youth this quarter in Kirkuk. CSP collaborated with GOI officials such as the Director General of Health on cholera awareness and prevention, the Director General of Water Resources on water conservation as a result of recent droughts, and Iraqi Red Crescent Society on first aid. For the first time, large-scale youth activities were supported in the more volatile region of Al Hawija. Conflict mitigation, an important component of youth in diverse Kirkuk, involved the provincial governor, local authorities, and university students.

- In Fallujah, the completion of the East Entrance Park adjacent to the industrial area has captured the attention of the entire city, complimenting the clean up campaign of the industrial area. The East Entrance Park, six city blocks in length, employed 200 short-term workers. City officials then hired 30 long-term workers to manage and maintain the park.
- CSP concluded the operations support provided to the Ramadi Business Center (RBC), though it continues to work with and support senior management to ensure its sustainability. RBC senior management are securing a legal NGO status and are now generating revenues through rent and service fees to sustain operations at the center.
- In synch with the overall CSP strategy for greater focus on long-term job creation, Business Development Program (BDP) in North Babil witnessed an exceptional 210 grants completed, resulting in 785 created or restored long-term jobs. The program is averaging four long-term jobs per grant at an average cost of \$1,507 per job. Additionally, during this period, 249 grantees completed business skills training, up from only 38 during the previous period. North Babil has now provided business skills training to over 91 percent of the total approved grantees.

e. Infrastructure Security Program for Oil, Water, and Electricity

The Infrastructure Security Program (ISP) (\$217 million in ESF funding) plans and executes programs to provide security for oil, water, and electricity related infrastructure. Projects primarily fall under the following types:

- **Exclusion Zones:** Creating a protected area to provide security to linear infrastructure such as oil pipelines. Protection typically consists of a combination of ditches, berms, fence, razor wire, and limited access crossing points, and typically complements Iraqi Army infrastructure improvements that include battalion and company headquarters, barracks, and guard towers.
- **Facilities Hardening:** Improving existing critical infrastructure at refineries, power lines, power plants, water stations, and oil terminals to withstand interdiction attempts and security breaches. This includes chain-link fence, razor wire, guard towers, structural hardening, lighting, perimeter berms, hesco barriers, and concertina wire.
- **Integrity:** Security programs that focus on biometrics, identity cards, redundancy and viability in equipment, and other safety equipment necessary to eliminate single points of failure.
- **Support:** Programs that support the sustainment and maintenance of enduring security programs, such as life support, security facilities, and training programs.
- **Redundancy:** Supplementing existing oil export facilities with additional resources in order to ensure continuity of crude oil exports.

ISP projects are implemented through an Interagency Agreement between the Department of State and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), under which the USACE Gulf Region Division (USACE/GRD) is responsible for the execution and disbursement of \$217 million in FY 2006 Supplemental funds as well as quality assurance oversight.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USACE

Accomplishments:

During the quarter, the following key projects continued:

- Exclusion zone projects are being built along key oil pipeline corridors: Baiji to Kirkuk (all six phases are complete); Doura to Hillah (two phases are complete with the last segment scheduled for completion in October); and Baiji to Baghdad (six phases average 44 percent complete and scheduled for completion in December) (\$95.7 million).
- Hardening projects are under way in connection with numerous electrical transmission lines, electrical substations, petro-chemical refineries, water treatment plants, power generation plants, and offshore oil platforms. Completion rates range from contracts being bid out for construction at water treatment plants to completed projects at electrical substations (\$49.0 million).
- Completed the final tower hardening project. This portion of the ISP Program benefits an estimated 7.2 million people in Baghdad and Baiji and to areas south of Baghdad.
- Integrity and support projects focus on mitigating vulnerabilities through the specific application of equipment or parts (critical surge relief valves, quick response oil repair kits, or security force background vetting) or support activities (training facilities/programs, life support facilities in support of security).
- Eighty-six percent of ISP contracts are either in solicitation, awarded, in construction, or complete. Twelve percent are in the planning process.
- Completed construction of oil pipeline exclusion zone between Doura and Hillah (phases three and four). Phase two requires completion of remaining punchlist items and correction of some non-conforming work and is expected to be fully complete in October.

f. Community Action Program (CAP) II

The Community Action Program (\$224.96 million in ESF funding, including \$75 million in FY08 Supplemental funds) promotes democratic practices and the prevention and mitigation of conflict in rural and urban communities across Iraq. Working through partner NGOs and in consultation with local government counterparts, CAP facilitates the creation of representative, participatory community groups to identify priorities and implement programs to address those needs. CAP fosters direct citizen involvement in the rehabilitation of Iraq, enabling Iraqis to address local needs in their respective communities. It is a valuable tool for social mobilization and grassroots democratization.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USAID

Accomplishments:

- Approximately 675 new community projects in Phase II have been completed, with more than \$3.1 million in local contributions.
- More than 4.6 million people benefited directly from local community action group (CAG) activities.

- CAP II implementing partners created almost 9,000 long-term jobs through program implementation during this quarter.
- Mercy Corps and International Relief and Development (IRD) responded to emergency situations in the south and in Sadr City with medical services, supplies, and assistance to Iraqis that were injured during the conflicts.

CAP continues to manage the Marla Ruzicka War Victims Fund (including an additional \$9.96 million from the FY08 omnibus and supplemental budgets) to assist innocent victims of Coalition actions. More than 250 Marla Ruzicka Iraqi War Victims Fund projects have been completed, benefiting more than 625,000 victims of war. These projects include support for income generation, individual medical assistance, and rehabilitation of destroyed homes, schools, and clinics.

Objective 2: Economic Track

a. Infrastructure Capacity Development Training and Technical-Level Management

Programs in this category (\$51.97 million in ESF funds, obligated to USACE) focus on strengthening Iraq's essential-service ministries through operations and maintenance (O&M) training programs. These programs primarily target technician-level operators at major electricity power plants, water and wastewater plants, and select health, transportation, and communication facilities. Training includes preventive maintenance planning and scheduling, inventory control systems, spare parts forecasts and procurement, apprenticeship and certification programs with Iraqi technical institutes, and planning for annual maintenance outages in the power sector.

Projects are implemented under an Interagency Agreement between the Department of State and USACE, under which the USACE Gulf Region Division (GRD) is responsible for executing and disbursing the \$51.97 million in FY 2006 Supplemental funds obligated for technical training. Planned efforts span the essential services of electricity, health care, transportation, communication, water, and sanitation.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USACE

Accomplishments:

- Forty-three contracts have been awarded with a value totaling \$42.2 million, bringing obligations to 81 percent.
- Projects conducted this quarter included capacity development training given to engineers, lawyers, project administrators, operators, and technicians from the Iraq Ministry of Electricity. Training included power plant O&M training, procurement and contracts, maintenance planning and scheduling, warehouse inventory, construction project management, management development, and technical management.

- GRD provided workshops from June through August for 1,784 Ministry of Electricity personnel on construction project management, warehouse inventory, maintenance management, and transmission network.

b. O&M Sustainment of Key U.S.-Funded Infrastructure

O&M sustainment (\$295 million in ESF funds) assists Iraqis to sustain U.S. investments in essential service infrastructure by providing in-plant services (such as combustion inspections and hot gas path inspections) and consumables and spare parts at major electricity power plants, water and wastewater plants, and select health, transportation, and communication facilities.

Projects in this category are implemented under an Interagency Agreement between U.S. Department of State and USACE, Gulf Region Division (GRD), which is responsible for executing and disbursing funds. Prioritized project lists have been approved that plan the use of all authorized funds, with 57 specific efforts identified that span O&M sustainment of U.S.-funded facilities in the essential service areas of electricity, health care, transportation, communication, water, and sanitation.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USACE

Accomplishments:

A total of 51 projects worth \$272.5 million have been awarded, with 96 percent of available funds obligated. Project examples include delivery of generators, equipment, and spare parts, as well as installation of engines to upgrade power plants.

c. Agriculture Private Sector Development

The *Inma* private sector agribusiness development project (\$92.5 million in ESF) targets the formation and growth of agribusiness firms to stimulate and expand agriculture production, increase productivity, and achieve higher levels of employment. The project identifies and supports new businesses by expanding operations of privately-owned and operated businesses. This effort complements specific supply chain enhancements to help Iraq meet its domestic food needs and revitalize a sector that employs more than a quarter of Iraq's population.

Additionally, USAID complements the Department of Agriculture's efforts (\$2.4 million in ESF) in helping implement national policy that promotes and supports commodity-focused agribusinesses. Specifically, these efforts are aimed at increasing the competitiveness of agribusiness enterprises by upgrading national food policies and regulations to meet international standards.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USAID

Accomplishments:

- Rehabilitated the 9 Nissan market (installation of boundary walls, provision of refrigerators) and facilitated the establishment and registration of a local NGO, NINMA, to administer the market and ensure sustainability of the service. *Inma* conducted management training to NINMA board members and covered the NGO's operational costs for two months. *Inma* and NINMA are coordinating with the provincial governorate and the PRT to facilitate the transfer of vendors to the new facility.
- Provided a grant of over \$5 million to the Balad Canning Factory (the second largest in Iraq with 11 production lines), enabling it to recommence operations. Rehabilitation activities continue with the factory currently running four production lines with others expected to be online soon.
- Provided a grant for the rehabilitation of the Hamediyah Mushroom Farm in Ramadi, the only factory in Iraq engaged in mushroom cultivation. Rehabilitation of the factory is near completion and will provide employment opportunities for the local community.
- Organized a matchmaking mission between four of Iraq's biggest date exporters (from Hillah, Basrah, Babil, and Baghdad) and a major importing company from Dubai, the al-Bogari company, to facilitate the export of Iraqi dates.
- Processed the distribution of 800 tons of wheat seed and 100 tons of barley seed through eight PRTs, with the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture's consent. This is an effort by *Inma* to alleviate Iraq's seed shortage problem.
- Jump-started the grants-to-loan program, sending a solicitation to Iraqi private banks throughout the country. Once participating banks are selected, *Inma* will award sizable grants to be used to provide loans in the agribusiness sector, increasing the number of functional lending institutions and funds available for agriculture. The first bank loan application grant is expected in October.
- Conducted preliminary assessments in the Kurdistan region that identified potential areas for intervention including the establishment of beef and lamb feedlots; the improvement of alfalfa production and vegetable marketing; and the provision of training on agribusiness, association development, and management.

d. Ambassador's Targeted Development Program (TDP)

The Targeted Development Program (\$57.4 million in FY 2007 Supplemental ESF funds) is a grant program that provides the U.S. embassy in Baghdad with a valuable tool for supporting economic and social initiatives in areas of conflict in Iraq. The program is positioned to respond to needs identified by the embassy and approved by the ambassador, with grants made to Iraqi, U.S., and international non-governmental organizations. TDP supports programming by NGOs that focus on conflict mitigation, reconciliation, and alternative dispute resolution, as well as model initiatives for specific community social and economic challenges, including education, health care needs, and job creation. Grants range from \$150,000 to \$3 million and are administered by the Iraq Transition Assistance Office (ITAO).

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: Department of State

Accomplishments:

- Conducted three calls for proposals and awarded 34 grants totaling approximately \$57 million, including:
 - Funding the development of a legal clinic to train and provide lawyers for detained persons.
 - Funding the transport of two Bengal tigers for relocation to the Baghdad Zoo, replacing a tiger shot by coalition forces.
 - Funding the establishment of the One Laptop Per Child program in coordination with the Ministry of Education.

e. Provincial Economic Growth- Tijara Project

Tijara is a three year Provincial Economic Growth Project that began in April 2008 as a follow on to USAID's Izdihar Project. The overall objective of Tijara is to increase Iraqi economic output by promoting private sector development through greater access to finance and business development services. Specifically, Tijara provides business development services (BDS) through Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs). Additionally, Tijara provides support for the expansion of commercial lending through microfinance institutions and banks by identifying and reducing market lending risks, providing training and technical assistance, disseminating information, education, knowledge management and research. Tijara is working to develop the Iraqi economy through interventions with the micro/small and medium enterprises MSME sectors. Tijara's activities promote economic diversification and employment generation amongst small and medium enterprises. The project also provides training and technical assistance to the GOI to facilitate Iraq's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), in order to normalize Iraq's international trade relations and provides assistance to the GOI to stand up the National Investment Commission.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USAID

Accomplishments:

- Six new Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) have been opened in Kut, Najaf, Nassiriya, Ramadi, Telaafar, and Tikrit, as well as two satellite offices in Iskandariya (Babel) and Taza (Taameem).
- SBDCs trained 1,791 individuals (23 percent female) in starting up and improving businesses.
- Project assisted GOI in participation and completion of the Second WTO Working Party Meeting for Iraq in Geneva Switzerland.
- Completed and submitted to the Iraqi Services Committee the paper: A Guideline to Understanding the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and Scheduling Commitments under the GATS.
- Conducted strategy and liaison meetings with the Ministry of Trade and convened WTO Services Committee dedicated to the drafting of Iraq's WTO Market Access offers across 14 key service sectors constituting the WTO "ACC5" (accession document relating to data on modes of supply in the Iraqi services sector).

- Successfully re-launched the National Investment Commission (NIC) website, and began to work with NIC in establishment of a One-Stop-Shop to facilitate more investment in Iraq.
- A concept paper for the NIC One-Stop-Shop has been completed and submitted to NIC for feedback and approval. The One-Stop-Shop will be the central repository of resources for international investment licensing requirements.
- The project conducted operational assessments of six Iraqi MFIs: Relief international, ACIDI/VOCA, Al Bashair, REDC, TEDC, and CHF. These assessments are the first steps in building individualized long-term development plans for the MFIs and additional assessments will be conducted in the coming months.
- The MFIs' total outstanding loan portfolio as of September 30 is 36,880 loans worth \$54,185,762. This represents industry-wide growth of 36 percent in the past six months.
- Selected six banks to participate in the pilot program to develop SME Lending Units to expand financial services to a larger segment of the Iraqi economy. A three phase training program is being implemented. Phase I which focused on accounting procedures and credit analysis has been completed.
- Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees (ICBG) approved 71 loan guarantees worth a total of \$2,149,298.

Objective 3: Political Track

a. Ministerial Capacity Development

The Ministerial Capacity Development Program (\$315 million in ESF, including \$70 million in FY08 Supplemental funds) assists the GOI in strengthening the capacity necessary for the effective delivery of public services, particularly in key national ministries (including the Ministries of Finance, Electricity, Oil, Municipalities and Public Works, Water Resources, Planning, Justice, Agriculture, and Health, as well as their Inspectors General) and anti-corruption organizations (including the Commission on Integrity and the Board of Supreme Audit). In addition to these ministries, USAID's *Tatweer* Project works closely with the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Deputy Prime Minister's Offices (DPMO), and the Council of Ministries' Secretariat (COMSEC).

Activities include two main elements: specific, immediate support to key ministries through advisors dedicated to the ministry or institution; and training of civil servants at the national and provincial levels to improve approaches to key public administration functions, such as project management, procurement, human resources, and delivering public services; and managing training programs in these areas to sustain this effort.

The total participants in the training since project start-up in July 2006 totals 25,000. This core of trained civil servants covers all USAID/Tatweer disciplines and all 18 provinces. More than 50 percent of training is done by GOI employees as USAID transitions to Iraqi ownership of a growing training capacity in Iraq. USAID is now training more civil servants per month than the former Iraqi regime was able to train in a calendar year.

Responsible U.S. Government Agencies: Department of State and USAID

Accomplishments:

State and USAID have worked with other U.S. agencies to increase the number of advisors within key Iraqi ministries, in order to achieve a more rapid improvement in ministries' performance.

- USAID/*Tatweer* and the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works (MOMPW) completed renovation of two ministry training centers. These centers, the Tel-Mohammed Training Center in the Karada area of Baghdad and the MOMPW/Headquarters Training Center in the Mansour area, are the centerpieces for the Ministry's strong commitment to sustaining its expanding program of in-service public management training.
- USAID/*Tatweer* advisors provided training to the MOMPW's 15 Provincial Planning Units in using Visual FoxPro to store and analyze capital investment project information. The software will allow provincial planning units to track and report progress on their own projects directly to Baghdad.
- Key project planning personnel from six civilian ministries with large capital budgets (Oil, Electricity, Public Works, Health, Water, Agriculture) and the Ministry of Planning completed specialized training on the implementation of a fully automated system for feasibility study preparation, presentation, and evaluation. The participants are now installing the system at their home ministries and training their colleagues. The broad use of this program will improve cost analyses and budget execution.
- USAID completed the network wiring and email configuration of the Ministry of Health's main building, providing the Ministry's headquarters staff with better communication capabilities.
- A Capacity Development Unit (CDU) was established in the Human Rights Ministry. The CDU began work on a reorganization plan for the legal and information technology (IT) departments, which will include training courses in human resources development, fiscal management, and IT management.
- USAID/*Tatweer* facilitated a Strategic Plan development workshop for the Ministry of Health, which adopted a vision statement and a draft strategic plan. USAID/*Tatweer* is engaged in assisting the Ministry of Health draft its 2009-2013 Strategic Plan, which will be comprehensive and based on the needs of the health sector.
- USAID/*Tatweer* submitted a six-month work plan to the Council of Ministers' Secretariat (COMSEC), laying out a comprehensive training strategy that will assist COMSEC's Training and Development Department to upgrade its information management system.
- COMSEC, in collaboration with USAID/*Tatweer*, implemented a well-received strategic planning coaching session. Participants took advantage of the opportunity to brainstorm on best decision-making approaches for capital projects and capital investments in provinces that still exhibit a sectarian attitude toward federalism.
- Senior Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MODM) officials approved a USAID/*Tatweer* work plan, setting the course for the project's continued work with the ministry. The plan emphasizes the joint USAID/Ministry program in all the core public administration areas, including upgrading the ministry's information technology

capability for its system of registering, identifying, and tracking internally displaced persons and refugees.

b. Policy, Legal, and Regulatory Reform

Programs in the area of policy, legal, and regulatory reform (\$88.2 million in ESF funds) are ongoing. These efforts include assistance to the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) in the areas of banking supervision, evaluation and enforcement of the reserve requirement, management, data collection, statistical analysis, and information technology management.

These programs also provide the Iraqi government with technical assistance on pension matters, including the establishment of a pension administration system, the development of supervisory mechanisms to ensure adequate protection of funds and investments, and the implementation (with the Pension Reform Steering Committee) of the recently passed Pension Law. Assistance to the Iraqi Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) has resumed based on clear indications of the MOF's commitment to fulfilling this project, and progress is being made.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: USAID

Accomplishments:

- Finalized two volumes (on Theoretical and Practical Application of the IFMIS; and Accounting Laws, Regulations and Ministry of Finance Directions) of MOF's accounting manuals as part of the IFMIS project.
- Trained the MOF Census Unit on Structured Query Language and networking fundamentals to bolster the Census Analysis and Reporting tool training initiative, which is the basis for collection of government employee census data. This was the first step in an initiative to implement an Iraqi government employee payroll system and has helped to form the foundation for the Iraqi government's Employee Pension Program.
- Provided Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) information technology personnel with foundational systems training, such as database administration and programming in SQL and Net platforms, in preparation for Social Safety Net system training.
- Assisted the National Board of Pensions (NBP) directorate by analyzing staffing and providing position descriptions and organization charts of each directorate, which has helped reorganize NBP's senior-level management.
- Outlined an NBP organizational transition plan which ensures that the board is ready to integrate the MOLSA pension directorate staff by January 2010. Provided a detailed NBP roadmap that assisted in reducing the risk of organizational failure. Laid the foundation for the Change Management or Transition Plan through NBP Future Leaders/Direct Reports Training curriculum.

c. Democracy and Civil Society

Appropriations in the amounts of \$55.4 million (FY 2006 base budget), \$48 million (FY 2006 supplemental budget), \$20.1 million (FY 2007 continuing resolution), \$67.6 million (FY 2007 supplemental budget), and \$75 million (FY 2008 supplemental budget) support critical democracy-building programs throughout Iraq. These funds support efforts by the Iraqi Council of Representatives to address a number of important governance issues through the legislative and constitutional process, as well as capacity strengthening for the Independent Higher Electoral Commission of Iraq (IHEC). Funds in this category also support the participation of women and minorities in the political process and civil society efforts.

Responsible U.S. Government Agencies: USAID and Department of State – Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)

Accomplishments:

USAID’s Iraq Rapid Assistance Program (Civil Society Component)

- The Iraq Rapid Assistance Program (IRAP) has continued to strengthen PRT and ePRT support to and engagement with Iraqi civil society.
- As of September 2008, IRAP was managing the implementation of 19 civil society and conflict mitigation grants totaling \$2.0 million, with disbursements totaling \$639,000. Grants have been awarded to NGOs throughout the country for activities such as youth programs, peace and tolerance promotion events, gender awareness training, campaigns to prevent violence against women, and NGO capacity-building initiatives.

USAID’s Iraq Community-Based Conflict Mitigation Program (ICCM)

- Under ICCM (\$24 million in ESF), conducted conflict assessments in 64 communities representing 18 governorates in Iraq. The assessments analyzed primary conflict factors affecting the respective communities and identified potential projects to mediate them.
- Identified 60 quick impact projects for 29 communities addressing major conflict factors based on the conflict assessment findings.
- Conducted conflict mitigation training for 12 District Advisory Councils in Baghdad.
- Completed 19 projects targeting youth and conflict throughout the country and continued implementation of additional 29 youth projects.

Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

- Conducted leadership seminar with trade union federations that resulted in joint union initiatives to advocate for a more democratic labor law for Iraqi workers.
- Conducted leadership seminar with presidents of Basrah- and central Iraq-based trade union federations. As a result of the meeting, Basrah-based unions established a new labor coalition to press for trade union organizing rights.
- Completed two teachers’ union exchange initiatives for 20 teachers.
- Sponsored a training program on monitoring and evaluation in Erbil for more than 28 NGO participants. Training sessions discussed topics such as project monitoring, evaluation, and association governance and reporting.
- Held a capacity building training for the Iraqi Businessmen’s Union (IBMU), focusing on increasing capacity, instilling best governance practices, and formulating a strategic plan for the Union.

- Held an intensive five-day training program on court-monitoring techniques, as well as a judicial procedural awareness training workshop for 25 legal professionals and members of the security forces.
- Conducted 15 one-day public forums among officials, NGOs, citizens, and members of parliament and aired a televised and radio prime-time show series for Najaf callers to ask questions of their officials.
- Organized a 24-show radio series and 36 lectures on women's involvement in politics.
- Held conferences on national unity on women's rights in Maysan.
- Conducted series of training workshops for young leaders in active civic and public roles from different religious and ethnic groups.
- Conducted a survey about women's rights and used its results to develop and run a radio series of 45 lectures, newspaper articles, and workshops for 100 women leaders.
- Conducted workshops for 300 citizens, each one including a three-act theatrical play about the political rights and duties of Iraqi citizens. The plays will be re-broadcast on a local television network and available on CD to local NGOs and community leaders.
- Organized 12 two-day training workshops for 240 journalists from 12 governorates. The participants discussed an effective national advocacy strategy to address the drawbacks related to the draft journalism law.
- Trained 360 men and women in rural areas for three days on gender-based violence and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

d. Regime Crimes Liaison Office

Regime Crimes Liaison Office (RCLO) programs (\$33 million in ESF funds) coordinate assistance to the Iraqi High Tribunal (IHT) from U.S. agencies in Iraq, other foreign governments, law enforcement agencies, and international and non-governmental organizations.

Responsible U.S. Government Agency: Department of Justice

Accomplishments:

- Continued support for IHT trials to include the 1991 Intifada Uprising trial, the Merchants' trial, and the Friday Prayers trial.
- Provided ongoing support for potential trials to include the Al Dawi case, the Marsh Arab case, the killing of British soldiers case, and the Van Anraat case.
- Monitored IHT personnel as they assumed responsibilities for housing and security for defense attorneys.
- Advised and assisted IHT personnel in legal matters related to the transfer of detainees to Iraqi government custody.
- Assisted Iraqi judges and investigators with planning for a trip to the United States in order to conduct witness interviews.
- Continued coordination between IHT and operational personnel in setting up an appellate chamber trip to The Hague.
- Assisted the IHT in obtaining and upgrading International Zone access badges for judges and key IHT personnel.

- Advised the IHT, U.S. military, and embassy on issues pertaining to High Value Detainees held in U.S. custody for IHT investigations.
- Completed drawdown and closure of RCLO operation. A team of two attorneys will remain for an additional 180 days to act as a Rule of Law Liaison to the IHT and to complete a closing memo.

Programs Funded by Other Budget Sources

a. Democracy, Human Rights, and Women's Issues – Democracy Fund (DF)

In the FY07 Supplemental, \$250 million was provided for the Democracy Fund, with \$190 million appropriated to the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) and \$60 million appropriated to USAID. To date, DRL has awarded \$190 million to support programs that focus on democracy and governance, human rights, and women's issues. The vast majority has been awarded to organizations through open competition.

Responsible U.S. Government Agencies: Department of State – DRL and USAID

Accomplishments:

Democracy and Governance (DRL)

- Completed 17 labor rights and democracy training programs for 365 male and female workers from a variety of sectors.
- Provided training to 20 Iraqi women unionists from six trade union federations on building skills needed for women to obtain leadership positions in the labor movement.
- Held two five-day capacity-building workshops to equip Iraqi journalists with the technical and professional expertise necessary to accurately report on economic issues and to monitor economic reform and corruption.
- Documented acts of violence in Basrah for the purpose of mapping conflict zones in the city.
- Conducted a three-day training seminar on media relations for 12 staff members of the Presidency Council. Topics presented included transparent governance, the basics of a sound message strategy, and tools for working with the media. Conducted training on filming and editing for seven staff members of the Presidency Council.
- Conducted a research methodology workshop in Erbil for 34 representatives from 17 think tanks from Baghdad, Erbil, Najaf and Sulaymaniya. Participants received instruction on sourcing, analytical approaches, and product development. Other topics discussed included working across ethno-sectarian lines, maintaining independence in research, managing relationships with funders, and targeting the consumer.
- Produced a television talk show to educate the public on powers of provincial councils.
- Supported extensive workshops and media campaigns in support of initiatives to modify official identification cards by removing mention of religion or ethnicity and to decrease the minimum candidacy age for parliament from 30 to 25 years of age.
- Continued a series of election-focused trainings that were attended by nearly 464 representatives of 22 parties.

- Conducted a national youth conference in Erbil attended by over 125 participants who were taught a variety of election campaign topics by expert trainers in the fields of public opinion research, grassroots campaigning, and message development techniques.
- Convened a group of Iraqi officials and international experts with experience in resolving property claims in post-conflict situations to address the problem of displacement in Iraq and develop a government strategy for resolving property claims in Iraq.

Human Rights (DRL)

- Drafted, translated, and distributed 10 legal memoranda, including legislative comments on draft versions of the Federal Supreme Court Law, the Higher Judicial Council Law, legislation on Disabilities, legislation to establish Iraq's Media Commission, and a law on student scholarships.
- Developed technical support program with the Iraqi Council of Representatives' Media Department with the goal of improving the parliament's transparency.
- Provided the Media Department with equipment enabling them to scan and electronically process draft legislation and key parliamentary reports.
- Held in-depth meetings with Minister of Human Rights to design a national human rights strategy for the Government of Iraq.
- Convened several workshops for the Human Rights Committee in the Council of Representatives on legislative analysis and drafting to strengthen these skill sets.
- Continued to bring together the Minister of Human Rights and the Chairman of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in support of an independent national Human Rights Commission.
- Developed strategies to implement a comprehensive educational initiative and leadership training program consisting of educational classes and leadership lectures focusing on democracy, political participation, and the role of civil society in Iraq.
- Developed a new curriculum in coordination with Ministry of Education designed to teach the role of democracy, peaceful political participation, literacy, numeracy, and peace education, as well as vocational skills to thousands of people in under-served communities.
- Selected 20 organizations across the country to form an NGO Coalition, a broad-based advocacy network created to hold the Iraqi government accountable for the state of Iraqis' civil and political liberties.
- Completed the analysis and entry of 6,982 testimonies of human rights violations. Completed editing and partial translation of 130 testimonies, representing around 6,000 pages of material.
- Completed 1,000 pages of analysis on torture, rape and sexual violence, mines, use of chemical weapons, disappearances, and mass displacement.
- Trained a group of Baghdad University faculty in practical techniques and resources for teaching human rights. Fostered networks among human rights educators from different universities.

Women's Issues (DRL and the Office of International Women's Issues)

- Selected 135 widows in Basrah to be trained in skills that will empower them politically and increase their economic independence.

- Developed a Democracy and Women’s Rights Curriculum.
- Initiated legal and health services for 100 non-detained victims of gender-based violence, including women in shelters.
- Initiated jail visits with medical and legal screening for 100 women in six Iraqi governorates.
- Developed, translated, and distributed an attorney practice manual to NGOs. Conducted two training courses for women reporters and activists on web-based journalism, advocacy and radio production.
- Assisted young female reporters in publishing 20 print reports, four radio reports, and five TV features.
- Conducted training for women leaders and civil society managers on technical management, leadership, advocacy, project development, and proposal writing.
- Provided strategic planning guidance, negotiation skills training, and training-of-trainers workshops to members of several regional branches of the Multi-Party Women’s Caucus in advance of its new advocacy campaign.
- Conducted three ‘Internal Party Advancement’ training workshops for more than 60 women members of three political parties to help women play a greater role in the decision and policy-making processes of their political parties.

Elections (USAID) (includes \$2.55 million in ESF)

- Assisted the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) in successfully conducting a national voter registration update in July and August.
- Assisted PRTs in identifying needs and generating a series of Quick Response Fund (QRF) grants to the governorate electoral offices.
- Continue to assist the IHEC with the development of its operational plan and to support its public outreach department. Continue to give technical advice to the United Nations on voter education.

b. Criminal Justice Development and Rule of Law – International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Funds (INCLE)

In total, \$261.4 million in INCLE funds have been appropriated to the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs’ Rule of Law program (\$91.4 million in the FY 2006 supplemental budget; \$20.048 million in the FY 2007 continuing resolution; \$150 million in the FY 2007 supplemental budget; and \$85 million in the FY 2008 supplemental budget). These rule-of-law programs help the GOI to establish an effective and fair criminal justice system to which Iraqi citizens will turn to resolve disputes, rather than to militias and other extra-judicial forces of “justice.”

Assistance to the judiciary focuses on judicial training, judicial security, and court administration. Judicial training programs are designed to improve the functioning of judges and investigators in Iraq’s criminal justice system. Corrections assistance helps the Iraqi Corrections Service develop its capacities to operate a rapidly expanding prison system in a safe, secure, and humane manner that conforms to internationally accepted standards for the treatment of prisoners. Prison renovation and construction projects will add 6,589 bed spaces to the Iraqi federal prison system, with facilities to start coming online in early 2009 and through 2010.

Assistance to the Commission of Integrity enhances Iraq's ability to investigate and prosecute cases involving corruption in the public sector.

Responsible U.S. Government Agencies: Department of State – Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL); Department of Justice – International Criminal and Investigative Training and Assistance Program (ICITAP); U.S. Marshals Service, USACE

Accomplishments:

Justice Assistance

- The Army Corps of Engineers signed a contract with a local construction company for the installation of the Judicial Education and Development Institute (JEDI) facility. The JEDI facility was planned and developed with the cooperation and participation of the Higher Judicial Council on the Central Criminal Court-Iraq (CCC-I) campus in Karkh (Baghdad). The JEDI will be dedicated to training judges and court staff in a variety of subjects in a secure residential environment. The facility is scheduled to be started in October 2008, with beneficial occupancy in February 2009.
- Contracted advisors from Civilian Police International (CPI) arrived in Baghdad to: 1) support the opening of the JEDI by working with the GOI to develop the necessary governance and administrative systems for the new institution; 2) support the Higher Judicial Council (HJC)'s capacity to manage the institution's rapid growth; 3) support USG and GOI efforts to review judicial security systems through the Judicial Protection Project (currently focused on developing a security plan for the JEDI complex); and 4) mobilize a project team to complete the Iraqi Justice Integration Project (IJIP). The GOI is providing more than ten senior judges and administrators to partner with INL in developing and managing the projects in addition to land and some recurrent costs.
- A team from the University of Utah is arriving in October to assist the GOI in drafting and adopting legislation concerning the Federal Supreme Court and the Higher Judicial Council.

Judicial Security

- Previously, the Department of State's INL identified 17 additional courthouses in Iraq to assess for security upgrades in Phase III (courthouse security upgrades in Phases I and II were funded by IRRF). This past quarter, INL finalized statements of work for four courthouse upgrades.
- In November, the contracted advisors with CPI arrived to support INL's Nationwide Judicial Security Assessment project which will assess judicial security needs across Iraq. CPI and INL began development of work plans for the assessment.

Court Administration Assistance

- INL continued to assist Higher Judicial Council (HJC) in its efforts to modernize and strengthen court administration through the Iraqi Higher Judicial Court Administration Project (IH-CAP). INL worked with the HJC to review the implementation of the strategic framework, and to design the implementation of the mid- to long-term objectives.

- Donor coordination, particularly with the United Nations, is ongoing as well as consultations with the World Bank to ensure that support is closely coordinated and efficiencies maximized.

Corrections – Prisons

- Nasiriyah Phase I (IRRF-funded) is complete and has been operational and administered by the Iraqi Correctional services since June. Nasiriyah Phase II (INCLE-funded) is approximately 46 percent complete. Work on Phase II continues on the superstructure of the facility, the visitation area, and control center. Nasiriyah Phase III (IRRF-funded) has begun and is nine percent complete. The contractor has completed clearing the site and erected security fencing for the housing unit. A contract modification has been issued directing the contractor to install dewatering equipment to lower the water table so the concrete footers could be poured. A team of four ICITAP advisors are on site to assist ICS with the activation of Phase I.
- Basrah Central Prison (INCLE-funded): The contract for the facility has been awarded to Eastern Deffaf Al-Nahrean Company. INL has received and approved the final proposal and is waiting for USACE/GRD to submit the Support Agreement for approval. A limited Notice to Proceed was issued to the contract to effect repairs to the perimeter wall before allowing the contractor to complete mobilization of equipment, materials, and personnel to the site.
- Chamchamal (INCLE-funded): Work is progressing on schedule at this site. The contractor received approval from the Ministry of Electricity authorizing work on the electrical substation and high voltage system for the facility. The Ministry of Environment has indicated approval for the sewage lagoon system is forthcoming.
- Ft. Suse Phase I (INCLE-funded): This project is 44 percent complete. The contractor has met with the Ministry of Health Engineers to finalize the design; a sample guard tower has been inspected and approved for installation at the facility; and the ground water storage tanks have been repaired.
- Ft. Suse Phase III (INCLE-funded): The contract on Phase III was awarded to Daban Construction. This project is on schedule at three percent complete.
- Ramadi (IRRF-funded): Delays to the start of this project have occurred due to claims by various Iraqi citizens for the land originally identified for the prison site. Further review of land title documents and maps by USACE revealed that the land is titled to the Iraqi Ministry of Finance resolving the land title issue. Preparations are underway to solicit bids and proceed with the project.

Corrections – Assistance to the Iraqi Corrections Service

- ICITAP advisors continued to train and mentor the Iraqi Corrections Service (ICS) Court and Records Department staff to improve court administrative processes and enhance the process of releasing inmates under Iraqi Amnesty Law No. 19. A total of 820 inmates were released under provisions of the amnesty law from the Baghdad region during the reporting period.
- ICITAP advisors assisted the ICS with several successful inmate transfers between ICS prisons using both Iraqi ground and coalition aviation assets. Transfers facilitated bed management, renovations, prisoner release, trials, and ensuring that female prisoners were in an appropriately protected environment.

- The ICITAP advisors facilitated basic and in-service continuation training throughout the country. Cadets graduated from basic corrections training under certified Iraqi trainers at the National Academy in Baghdad and at Regional Academies in Baddush, Basrah, Camp Cropper, and Nasiriyah.
- The ICITAP audit team completed prison assessment audits in several facilities. Successful audits at the Dahuk Rehabilitation Center and the Dahuk Female and Juvenile Rehabilitation Center will result in the withdrawal of the Dahuk ICITAP team and reassignment of advisors to higher priority venues.
- ICITAP advisors worked with ICS Budget and Finance staff to monitor the distribution of the 2008 emergency budget.

Public Integrity

- Continued a mentoring and training program for investigators at the Commission on Integrity (COI), providing 720 hours of classroom instruction and 1,756 hours of on-the-job investigative mentoring.
- Provided instruction in surveillance techniques, electronic surveillance, and forensic psychophysiological detection of deception. As part of the training, students began pre-employment polygraph examinations for prospective COI employees.
- Iraqi employees with ICITAP training vetted COI employees through the use of advanced biometric identification process.
- Created a proposed 2009 ICITAP COI Program Plan that focuses on the development of managerial and supervisory skills and the enhancement of developed operational capacity of the COI. The plan will develop and implement a comprehensive national training strategy, address legislative initiatives to strengthen anti-corruption laws, and identify and assess areas of operational deficiencies.

United States Marshals Service (USMS)

- Turned over the operation of witness protection sites to the GOI. All witness protection sites reverted to the Iraqi government with the exception of one, which will be used by the INL-funded Major Crimes Task Force.

Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF)

- Staffed by Iraqi investigators drawn from a range of Ministry of Interior agencies, MCTF continues to enhance the capabilities of Iraqi police to investigate complex crimes such as interview techniques, public corruption investigations, and major case management. U.S. federal agents serve as mentors, trainers, and advisors.
- MCTF is working over 30 cases at any given time, including some of the most violent crimes in Iraq and the Task Force is establishing a tactical team to support its work.

c. Refugee Assistance – Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA), Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA), and International Disaster and Famine Assistance (IDFA) Funds

This section reports on funds appropriated for assistance to Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) under the MRA, ERMA, and IDFA accounts, which are separate from

refugee assistance funds previously provided under the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (see Appendix I). These funds include \$50 million in ESF funds provided in the FY06 Supplemental Budget; \$20.94 million in MRA funds in the FY 2007 continuing resolution; \$90 million in the FY 2007 Supplemental (\$45 million in MRA and \$45 million in IDFA); \$199.4 million from the FY 2008 omnibus base budget (\$149.4 million in MRA and an anticipated \$50 million in IDFA); and \$150 million from the FY 2008 supplemental budget. The Department of State has also used \$12.4 million in ERMA funds.

Responsible U.S. Government Agencies: Department of State – Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM); USAID – Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)

Accomplishments:

Department of State – PRM

The following are examples of activities undertaken this quarter through PRM’s international organization partners and NGO partners assisting Iraqi refugees in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

- Provided food and non-food items to over 158,000 Iraqis in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon
- Provided cash assistance to 13,872 families (41,616 individuals) in Syria and Jordan.
- Education summer activities for Iraqi out-of-school children and youth, including literacy and math classes and recreational activities.
- Distribution of 23,764 school uniforms and school supplies to Iraqi refugees registered in schools in Syria.
- UNHCR signed an agreement to provide services to 500 cancer patients in a hospital in Damascus. So far, over 250 patients have received cancer treatment in this hospital.
- Trained approximately 30 psychiatrists to become trainers on how to identify refugees with mental health problems. This will cover 70 primary health care centers across Syria.
- Provided assistance, such as counseling, vocational training, medical assistance, and basic humanitarian assistance, to almost 4,500 Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) survivors in Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon.
- Completed emergency rehabilitation of over 950 homes or shops in Iraq, benefiting over 21,000 Iraqis.
- Distribution of 385,000 one liter water bags in Diyala, Anbar, and Karbala provinces in response to seasonal outbreaks of acute diarrhea due to poor drinking water.
- Vaccination of almost 120,000 animals in 176 villages in Iraq, benefiting 779 households whose main source of income is livestock.

USAID – OFDA

The following are examples of activities undertaken through OFDA’s five implementing partners to improve the situation for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and their host communities nationwide.

- Continued to support water and sanitation activities through such activities as tankering water for nearly 1,200 IDPs and vulnerable families in Jalawlah sub-district.
- Provided basic medical assistance through mobile medical teams to nearly 3,000 IDPs and vulnerable Iraqis in Kirkuk and Salah ad Din province.
- Conducted coordination and information meetings in Tameem and Salah ad Din governorates as part of a Literacy Campaign Program for Women.
- Graveled 13,500 square meters of roads through parts of Tooze District, Salah ad Din province and 5 kilometers of roads around Khanaqin, Diyala province.
- Rehabilitated water station in Wasit province serving nearly 4,000 people.
- Completed projects to deliver water to an IDP camp in Anbar province, renovated a school in Baghdad, and extended a water pipe network in Ghawas in Baghdad.
- Organized 120 health promotion workshops in Wasit, Muthanna, and Erbil provinces, benefiting more than 3,600 women.

d. Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining, and Related Projects (NADR)

Humanitarian Demining and Small Arms Destruction

This section reports on funds appropriated under the NADR heading for humanitarian demining and small arms and light weapons destruction, including \$12.981 million (FY 2008 NADR HD), \$4,179,555 (FY 2008 NADR SALW), \$992,000 (other FY 2008 NADR), \$2.8 million (FY 2008 IRRF), and \$81,000 (FY 2008 DOD reimbursable).

These funds support a combination of minefield and battle area clearance operations and explosive ordnance disposal; small arms/light weapons destruction missions by the Iraq Mine/Unexploded Ordnance Clearance Organization (IMCO) and the Mines Advisory Group (MAG); the Rotary Club International in its Humanitarian Mine Action Victim Assistance; and work by Information Management for Mine Action Program (IMMAP) to complete the Iraq Landmine Impact Survey in the five provinces of Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Ninawa, and Salah ad Din.

Accomplishments:

- In Baghdad, IMCO hosted a Baghdad Children's Mine Risk Education Day, providing mine risk education for more than 120 children. This event featured senior Embassy and Iraqi officials and was covered by all major Iraqi news media outlets.
- MAG deployed eight small arms and light weapons (SA/LW) teams, destroying an additional 17,883 items of SA/LW.
- MAG identified over 260 dangerous areas and conducted community assessments in an additional six villages, interviewing 2,068 people.
- IMCO completed unexploded ordnance clearance of agricultural land in the Hay al Furat section of Baghdad, clearing 232,902 square meters of contaminated land and destroying 149 items of unexploded ordnance. Local residents were also given mine risk education.
- IMCO began and completed unexploded ordnance clearance of agricultural land in the Al Hamdaniya section of Baghdad, clearing 41,880 square meters of contaminated land and

destroying 13 items of unexploded ordnance. Local residents were also given mine risk education.

- IMCO began and completed unexploded ordnance clearance of Qanat Nursery in downtown Baghdad, clearing 31,104 square meters of contaminated land and destroying 19 items of unexploded ordnance.
- IMCO began destruction of small arms and light weapons (SA/LW) by fielding a new destruction machine and SA/LW team that cuts weapons, rendering them unserviceable. Full operation of the new SA/LW Section is expected during the next quarter. Ninety-five light weapons have been destroyed to date, with 1,000 more weapons received for destruction in the last week of the quarter.
- IMMAP conducted International Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) training for 26 IMCO personnel and three members of the Iraq National Mine Action Authority.
- IMMAP personnel completed the Landmine Impact Survey in nearly all areas of Salah ad Din Governorate.
- The Rotary Club International implemented a program to provide training for Iraqi Ministry of Health physicians, prosthetists, and technicians and to provide medical supplies and equipment for the Basrah Prosthetic Center in order to facilitate the manufacture of prosthetics for civilian Iraqi amputees.

e. Iraq Scientist Engagement Program

The Iraq Scientist Engagement Program (\$7.0 million budgeted for FY08) supports the transition of Iraqi scientists, technicians, and engineers with WMD and missile expertise to sustainable civilian employment in support of Iraqi economic development. This is accomplished through job placements, career transition workshops, collaborations with western and regional counterparts, monthly stipends, and science and industry-based development projects.

Accomplishments:

- Carried out regional training in August 2008 for six and eight Iraqi scientists, including one on business marketing and another on professional design for workshop and course development that will allow participants to successfully compete for jobs in Iraq.
- Graduated three new fellows in the Iraq Engineering Enhancement Program. One held a position in Albuquerque, New Mexico, another in Baltimore, Maryland, and a third conducted half the fellowship in Kansas and half in New York City.
- Organized a radiation safety training course in the region in July 2008 for twelve Iraqi participants. The training is related to other efforts to dismantle former nuclear facilities in Iraq.
- Selected 10 new projects for funding from over 100 proposals that were received in the latest round of a call for proposals under an initiative for scientific research and development in Iraq.